

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 004615

12

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TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

USSAGE NAKHON PHNOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COGARD

UNCLAS STATE 004615

COGARD FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 9 EA PRESS SUMMARY

INDOCHINA

1. SHERMAN (S-N, JAN. 8) REPORTS THAT US IS ABOUT TO SEND SVN FIRST OF 60 F5E FIGHTERS TO BE DELIVERED THIS YEAR, IN SPEEDED EFFORT AGAINST NVN BUILDUP. SAYS US OFFICIALS ACKNOWLEDGE MOVE VIRTUALLY CERTAIN TO PROVOKE HANOI CHARGES THAT US VIOLATING C-F RESTRICTIONS AGAINST INTRODUCING NEW WEAPONS. QUOTES INFORMED SOURCES THAT F5E "TIGER II" FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE PART OF PACKAGE REQUESTED BY THIEU THAT INCLUDES MORE TANKS, ANTI-TANK MISSILES, AA MISSILES, AMMO AND SPARE PARTS, UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 004615

AND MAY REQUIRE PRES. TO REQUEST 600 MILLION DOLS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR SVN WHEN CONGRESS RECONVENES. SHERMAN DESCRIBES F5E AS FAR SUPERIOR TO F5A, AND SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR SVN AS POSSIBLE AIR DEFENSE

AGAINST NVN MIG-21S. US POSITION IS THAT F5E HAS SAME "CONFIGURATION" AS F5A, THOUGH SOME OFFICIALS PRIVATELY ADMIT THAT RESEMBLANCE IS IN NAME ONLY. THIEU WANT-LIST BEING STUDIED SINCE NEITHER DOS, DOD OR WH SAID TO BE CONVINCED THAT SITUATION REQUIRES NEW RUN-IN WITH CONGRESS ON MILITARY SPENDING. US OFFICIALS SAY NO QUESTION EXISTS OF BIG NVN BUILDUP IN SOUTH, SO CENTRAL PROBLEM IS WHAT EFFORT US MUST

MAKE TO BOLSTER SVN AND CONVINCE HANOI OF CONTINUING US COMMITMENT; F5E SHIPMENT CALCULATED TO DO BOTH. CAPTURED DOCUMENTS INDICATE NO HANOI ALL-OUT OFFENSIVE PLANNED, RATHER THAT NVN WILL TRY TO CONSOLIDATE POSITIONS IN "THIRD VIETNAM" WHILE KEEPING GVN FORCES OFF-BALANCE. BUT DOD BELIEVES SVN MUST HAVE CAPABILITY TO PREVENT COMMUNIST VICTORY SHOULD HANOI CHOOSE TO STRIKE, ESPECIALLY SINCE US COULD NOT INTERVENE MILITARILY AGAINST SUCH AN OFFENSIVE WITHOUT FIRST GETTING CONGRESSIONAL PERMISSION.

2. REUTER QUOTES PENTAGON SPOKESMAN THAT F5E AIRCRAFT BEING SENT TO SVN BUT THIS IS NOTHING NEW SINCE DOD HAS ALWAYS STATED THAT IT WOULD REPLACE OLDER F5A AIRCRAFT WITH MORE ADVANCED MODELS. SPOKESMAN ALSO SAYS THAT HE IS NOT AWARE OF ANY "QUESTION OF LEGALITY" THAT REPLACEMENT WOULD VIOLATE C-F PROVISIONS.

3. DOD SPOKESMAN ACKNOWLEDGES THAT SHOOTING DOWN OF CHOPPER HAS MADE SEARCHERS MORE CAUTIOUS, BUT DENIES ENDING MIA SEARCH. PRINCIPAL PROBLEM CITED IS LACK OF COOPERATION OF COMMUNIST OFFICIALS AND FINDING SITES THAT THEY WILL ALLOW TO BE SEARCHED. SPOKESMAN SAYS THERE ARE NO PLANS TO REDUCE 160-MAN JCRC IN THAILAND, EMPHASIZES THAT US DIPLOMATS WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR ACCESS TO UNSEARCHED AREAS (AP, WP; PHINQ; REUTER; UPI, S-).  
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 004615

4. VC AND GVN RUN INTO NEW DEADLOCK OVER NEW POW-EXCHANGE AGREEMENT, WITH THREE-HOUR MEETING TO WORK OUT PROCEDURES ENDED IN EXCHANGE OF CHARGES (UPI, NYT; PHINQ; REUTER).

5. NVN AND SVN SPOKESMEN DISAGREE OVER SCHLESINGER STATEMENT THAT IT "HIGHLY LIKELY" THAT PRES. WOULD ASK CONGRESS FOR AIR STRIKE AUTHORITY IF HANOI LAUNCHES MAJOR ASSAULT. NVN ACCUSES US OF ENCOURAGING SAIGON TO PLUNGE "DEEPER INTO THE ROUTE OF MILITARY ADVENTURE", WHILE SVN CALLS SEC DEF STATEMENT A "DISCOURAGEMENT FOR HANOI" (AP, WP).

6. GVN COMMAND SAYS CLASHES INTENSIFY ON CENTRAL

COAST AND IN DELTA AS COMMUNIST ATTACKS ON POSTS DRIVEN OFF WITH 71 VC KIA (REUTER).

7. SHIPLER (NYT) WRITES FROM VILLAGE 55 MILES NW OF SAIGON WHOSE RESIDENTS MAKE EASY PROFIT SELLING GOODS TO VC, IN DEFIANCE OF GVN ORDERS, IF WILLING

TO THREAD WAY THROUGH MINEFIELDS AND ELUDE GVN CHECK-POINTS. SAYS CLANDESTINE COMMERCE HAS GROWN UP EVERYWHERE, AND TRADE MAY BE HOPEFUL SIGN OF DEVELOPING INTERDEPENDENCE AND RECONCILIATION ON LOWER LEVELS. VC PAY 2-3 TIMES NORMAL PRICE FOR GOODS, SOMETIMES IN DOLLARS; MOST VILLAGERS SELL FOR ECONOMIC, NOT IDEOLOGICAL REASONS. ONE US ECONOMIST SAYS GVN SHOULD NOT DISCOURAGE TRADE SINCE "VC HAVE BEEN A GOOD SOURCE OF DOLLARS, AND THE GOVERNMENT NEEDS DOLLARS". C-F AGREEMENT ALLOWS FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND HAK-THO JUNE COMMUNIQUE REITERATES UNHAMPERED NON-MILITARY MOVEMENT, BUT GVN SEES ECON BLOCKADE AS ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT OF WARFARE DESPITE "POROUS" BORDER BETWEEN SIDES. SOME REVERSE-TRADE OCCURS WITH LUMBER, CINNAMON AND OTHER ITEMS COMING OUT OF VC AREAS. CORRUPTION AND INTERFERENCE WITH COMMERCE MAKE BLOCKADE APPEAR COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO SOME US AND GVN OFFICIALS. VC HAVE SET UP OWN BLOCKADE  
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 004615

IN SOME OF THEIR ZONES, DESIGNED TO KEEP LUXURY GOODS OUT. ONE WESTERN DIPLOMAT OBSERVES THAT VC TRYING TO BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT, BUT ARE REALLY PART OF GVN ECONOMY.

8. REBEL PRESSURE ON PP GROWS AS NEW FRONT OPENS TO NORTH. LARGE REBEL FORCES ALSO REPORTED TO WEST AND NW. US SOURCES TERM STEP-UP FIRST PHASE OF DRY-SEASON OFFENSIVE BUT BELIEVE FANK CAN HOLD. FIELD REPORTS SAY REBELS SURROUND FANK BATTALION NINE MILES SE OF PP, BUT DRIVE FROM WEST APPEARS CONTAINED AFTER HEAVY "INSURGENT" LOSSES. TO NORTH REBEL ATTEMPT TO ABDUCT FAMILIES COUNTERED BY GKR ARTILLERY THAT ALLOWS MANY TO ESCAPE. GKR MILITARY SOURCES SAY ENEMY REINFORCEMENTS COMING FROM NORTH BY BOAT THROUGH SWAMPS. FANK MOVES TROOPS FROM NORTH, SOUTH AND EAST TO TRY TO TRAP REBEL FORCES (AP NYT, SUN, WP, NYDN). HUNDREDS OF REFUGEES FLEE MAJOR BATTLE NORTH OF POCHENTONG; SITUATION THERE CONFUSED (UPI, NYT; PHINQ).

9. REP. ASPIN SAYS DOD PAYMENTS TO CIA AIR AMERICA OPERATION IN SEA INCREASE FROM 17.7 MILLION DOLS IN FY 72 TO 41.4 MILLION IN FY 73 (REUTER, SUN).

ASPIN SAYS AIR AMERICA CONTRACTS REFLECT SUBSTANTIAL US INVOLVEMENT IN SEA WAR, APPARENTLY UNKNOWN TO US PUBLIC, CIA HAS TAKEN UP SOME OF SLACK CREATED BY MILITARY WITHDRAWAL. CIA AND AIR AMERICA HAVE NO COMMENT (AP, WP).

ASSIST. SEC. INGERSOLL

10. AMB. INGERSOLL SWORN IN TUESDAY TO HEAD EA BUREAU, ANNOUNCES HE IS PLANNING TOUR OF REGION; GIVES NO ITINERARY DETAILS, BUT DOS OFFICIALS SAY TRIP WILL START MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK, WILL LAST TWO WEEKS AND TAKE IN MOST OF EA COUNTRIES (REUTER).

JAPAN

11. TANAKA ARRIVED IN BANGKOK WEDNESDAY, WATCHED UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 004615

GRIM-FACED AS THOUSANDS OF THAI STUDENTS DEMONSTRATED AGAINST HIS VISIT AND "JAPANESE IMPERIALISM" AND PLACED HIS HOTEL ALMOST UNDER SIEGE IN MASS PROTEST. SANYA EXPRESSES DISPLEASURE WITH DEMONSTRATIONS, IMPLIES BELIEF THEY GOT OUT OF HAND; BUT SAYS PLANNED TANAKA MEETING WITH STUDENT DELEGATION WILL TAKE PLACE AS SCHEDULED THURSDAY (REUTER).

12. JOINT JAPANESE-PHILIPPINE COMMUNIQUE SAYS TANAKA GAVE MARCOS ASSURANCE THAT JAPAN IS COMMITTED TO CONTRIBUTING TO SEA NATIONS' DEVELOPMENT "WITHOUT HINDERING THEIR EFFORTS AT ECONOMIC SELF-RELIANCE." IN MANILA PRESS CONFERENCE TUESDAY, TANAKA EXPRESSED WISH THAT PHILS AND OTHER SEASIA STATES WOULD INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION PROGRAMS, TOWARDS WHICH JAPAN, IN NEED OF FOOD, COULD GIVE ASSISTANCE (UPI NYDN, JOC, RUETER).

13. NYT'S HALLORAN, IN MANILA, REPORTS TANAKA'S INSISTENCE TO REPORTERS THAT JAPAN HAS NO INTENTION SEEKING DOMINATION OF SEA ECONOMIES AND THAT HIS GOVT. WILL TRY TO PREVENT PRIVATE ENTERPRISES FROM SO DOING. HALLORAN OBSERVES THAT TANAKA WAS NEGATIVE TOWARD CERTAIN GOP PROPOSALS, INCLUDING ROMULO'S PLEA FOR ASIAN MARSHALL PLAN FINANCED BY JAPAN; MARCOS'S PROPOSAL FOR CONVENING ASIAN NATIONS FORUM, REGARDLESS OF IDEOLOGY, TO SEEK POLITICAL STABILITY; AND GOP'S ASSERTION THAT ALL WATERS INSIDE LINE DRAWN AROUND PHILS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED TERRITORIAL WATERS AND CLOSED TO FOREIGN FISHING, OIL EXPLORATION AND POSSIBLY SHIPPING.

14. FROM MANILA, WP'S OBERDORFER, CITING JAPAN'S RISING STATURE IN TRADE, INVESTMENT AND AS FOREIGN

AID DONOR, SUGGESTS "ALL THIS HELPS EXPLAIN WHY  
MARCOS ...LAI DOWN A RED-CARPET WELCOME FOR THE  
LEADER OF ONE OF THE PHILIPPINES' LEAST FAVORITE  
NATIONS. SOME 630,000 JAPANESE TROOPS POURED INTO

THE PHILIPPINES" DURING WWII. BUT THIS WEEK RISING  
SUN FLEW ALONGSIDE PHILIPPINE FLAG, AND "CONTROLLED  
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 004615

PHILIPPINE NEWSPAPERS AND TV GAVE TOP BILLING TO  
GOVERNMENT HANDOUTS EXTOLLING THE JAPANESE LEADER."

15. REUTER (KL) REPORTS SPOKESMAN FOR GOM PM'S  
OFFICE WARNED MALAYSIAN STUDENTS WEDNESDAY AGAINST  
HOLDING ANY ANTI-JAPANESE DEMONSTRATIONS DURING  
TANAKA'S COMING VISIT.

16. AS MIKI ARRIVES FOR TALKS WITH HAK, CSM'S SAIKOWSKI  
REPORTS ADMIN. "DOES NOT CONCEAL ITS IRRITATION  
OVER TOKYO'S PRO-ARAB POLICY" IN WAKE OF ME WAR  
AND RESULTING OIL CRISIS; US OFFICIALS SUGGEST JAPAN  
"HAS LOOKED ONLY TO ITS OWN INTERESTS INSTEAD OF  
PURSUING MULTINATIONAL COOPERATION" TO SOLVE LONG-  
RANGE ENERGY PROBLEM. LOOKS FOR HAK TO ARGUE THIS  
POINT WITH MIKI AND TO SEEK STRONG JAPANESE BACKING  
FOR ENERGY-ACTION PLAN. SAYS JAPANESE REACTING  
FAVORABLY TO PLAN AND AWAITING PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE.

17. FUKUDA SAYS GOJ WILL DEFEND YEN AT ITS NEW  
PRICE OF 300-TO-DOLLAR (UPI, JOC). JAPANESE STOCKBROKERS  
REVEAL FINANCE MINISTRY HAS IMPOSED UNOFFICIAL RESTRICTIONS  
ON JAPANESE INVESTMENTS IN FOREIGN STOCK AND BONDS  
IN ORDER TO STEM DRAIN ON COUNTRY'S EXTERNAL RESERVES  
(REUTER, NYDN).

18. GOF SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCES POMPIDOU WILL PAY JAPAN  
STATE VISIT APRIL 23-26 (JOC). NAKASONE AND UK  
MINISTERS TO DISCUSS CLOSER MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN  
DEVELOPING OIL RESOURCES DURING TALKS THIS WEEK  
(JOC).

19. JAPAN ATOMIC INDUSTRIAL FORUM WILL ASK DETAILS  
OF SOVIET PROPOSAL TO COOPERATE WITH GOJ IN ALL  
FIELDS OF NUCLEAR FUEL PRODUCTION (CSM).

K&A

20. AP (SEOUL) REPORTS SK MASS MEDIA HAS IMMEDIATELY  
STOPPED REPORTING POPULAR MOVEMENT AGITATING FOR  
MORE DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION, IN WAKE OF PARK EMERGENCY  
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 004615

DECREE BANNING ANY ACTIONS AGAINST HIS RULE (WP, CHITRIB, SUN).

CHINA

21. PRC OPENS NEW FRONT IN MARATHON QUARREL WITH USSR BY DENOUNCING KREMLIN TREATMENT OF SOVIET INTELLECTUALS AND POLITICAL DISSIDENTS (REUTER WP, LAT, CHITRIB; AP, NYDN). NYT PEKING DISPATCH (FROM LONDON TIMES CORRESPONDENT) SUGGESTS CHINESE ATTACK MAY BE PARTLY IN RESPONSE TO SOVIET CHARGES THAT THERE IS MASS OPPOSITION TO PRC LEADERSHIP. SUN'S ISAACS, IN HK, OBSERVES THAT, "EVEN COMPARED WITH THE NORMALLY FIERCE ANTI-SOVIET POLEMICS ISSUING FROM PEKING," HSIHUA REPORT WAS "UNUSUALLY HARSH." NOTES ARTICLE DID NOT MENTION RECENT SOVIET ATTACKS ON SOLZHENITSYN; "HOWEVER, IT IS INCONCEIVABLE" THAT TIMING OF CHINESE CHARGES "COULD HAVE BEEN COINCIDENTAL." BY PUBLISHING ANTI-SOVIET POLEMIC AT TIME WHEN SOLZHENITSYN AFFAIR HAS RECEIVED WORLDWIDE ATTENTION, CHINESE "PRESUMABLY ARE SEEKING TO EXPLOIT REVIVED WESTERN FEARS OF MOSCOW'S AUTHORITARIANISM."

22. STANDARD OIL CO. SAYS ITS PROCESS FOR POLYPROPYLENE PRODUCTION WILL BE USED IN NEW PLANT TO BE BUILT FOR CHINA NATIONAL TECHNICAL IMPORT CORP. (NYT).

THAILAND

23. AMB. KINTNER TELLS THAI NEWSMEN THAT CIA AGENT WHO MAILED RTG PHONY C-F OFFER HAS DEPARTED THAILAND AFTER "APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY ACTION" (WP).

MALAYSIA

24. JOC (KL) REPORTS MALAYSIAN PARLIAMENT IN CURRENT SESSION WILL PASS LEGISLATION GIVING GOM CONTROL OVER AND LARGE SHARE OF COUNTRY'S BURGEONING OIL PRODUCTION. PRIMARY INDUSTRIES MINISTER SAYS NEW NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORP (HIKMA) WILL OPERATE ALONG UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 004615

LINES SIMILAR TO PETRAMINA.

AUSTRALIA

25. DEPSEC RUSH HOSTED RECEPTION FOR BARNARD MONDAY NIGHT TO GIVE DEFMINISTER CHANCE TO MEET SOCIALLY WITH SECRETARY AND SCHLESINGER. AMONG GUESTS: PORTER, INGERSOLL, HUMMEL, SNEIDER, AMB. GREEN, PLIMSOLL

AND AUSSIE DEF SEC TANGE (UPI, S-N JAN. 8).

26. GOA DECLARES COUNTRY "GRIEVOUSLY" UNDER-SUPPLIED WITH FUEL FOR SHIPS (JOC). MILLION SQUARE MILES OF NE AUSTRALIA (THIRD OF CONTINENT) FLOODED BY RAINS OF UP TO 13 INCHES IN 24 HOURS; 2 REPORTED DROWNED (AP WP, NYDN).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

27. LAT'S MCARTHUR (JAN. 8) IN SAIGON REPORTS US HAS TOLD GVN THAT US AIR COMBAT SUPPORT IS VERY UNLIKELY EVEN IN EVENT OF ALL-OUT COMMIE OFFENSIVE. THIS POINT WAS REITERATED "PROBABLY" AFTER SCHLESINGER'S TV STATEMENT THAT IT "HIGHLY LIKELY" THE ADMIN WOULD ASK CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR RENEWED BOMBING IF HANOI LAUNCHED ALL-OUT OFFENSIVE. QUOTES KNOWLEDGEABLE OFFICIALS THAT ONE OF AMBASSADOR MARTIN'S PRIORITY CHORES ON ARRIVAL SIX MONTHS AGO WAS TO GIVE THIEU REALISTIC ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY US REACTION TO COMMIE OFFENSIVE. SAYS WHILE MARTIN ALMOST CERTAINLY REITERATED PLEDGES OF HARDWARE AND MONEY PREVIOUSLY MADE BY PRES., HE GAVE THIEU VIRTUALLY NO HOPE OF COMBAT AIR SUPPORT; IN EFFECT, THIEU WAS TOLD THAT SAIGON MILITARY MACHINE - AND AIR FORCE - WOULD HAVE TO GO IT ALONE IF HANOI STRUCK. MCARTHUR RECALLS THAT RANKING US MILITARY OFFICERS WERE VIRTUALLY UNANIMOUS IN BELIEF THAT IT WAS AIR POWER WHICH TIPPED SCALE TOWARD SAIGON'S SURVIVAL IN 1972. SAYS THERE IS NO CHANCE THAT VNAF ALONE COULD DELIVER PUNISHMENT TO ATTACKING COMMIE FORCES AS WAS DELIVERED BY USAF, AND THAT VNAF WAS NEVER DESIGNED TO OPERATE WITHOUT BACKUP SUPPORT OF USAF - WHICH NOW VIRTUALLY GROUNDED  
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PAGE 09 STATE 004615

BY CONGRESSIONAL ACTION. BUT IT WOULD GIVE A GOOD ACCOUNT OF ITSELF IN FUTURE DIFFICULTIES, AND RANKING MEMBERS OF US ESTABLISHMENT APPEAR TO BELIEVE UNANIMOUSLY THAT SVN WOULD WEATHER THE STORM IF HANOI STRIKES.

28. LAT'S JACK FOISIE (JAN. 6) REPORTS FROM LAOS THAT ARMED COEXISTENCE SEEMS TO BE WORKING IN LUANG PRABANG, DESPITE NERVOUSNESS OVER "NEUTRALIZATION" ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY PL AND RLG EACH MAINTAIN 1,000 TROOPS THERE. COMMENTS THAT IF GUNS ARE SILENT, PROPAGANDA BATTLE GOES ON, AND FEW BELIEVE THAT COALITION GOVT. CAN WORK FOR LONG IF AT ALL. DESCRIBES "SIREN SONG" PL EFFORTS TO WIN HEARTS AND MINDS, AND NOTES PL COOPERATES EVEN IN US AID-SPONSORED IRRIGATION PROJECT IN LUANG PRABANG OUTSKIRTS. OBSERVES NO FRATERNIZATION GOING ON IN LUANG PRABANG - UNLIKE IN PAK OU. TOWARD FOREIGNERS, PL SOLDIERS

SHOW MILD HOSTILITY. BUT FOR DOWNRIGHT FREEZE, BEATING ALL IS SMALL GROUP OF PRC AIRMEN WHO HANDLE RESUPPLY FLIGHTS OF PL ARMS AND SUPPLIES INTO LUANG PRABANG. WHEN THE CHINESE WALK INTO AN OFF-SIDEWALK RESTAURANT THEY POST A GUARD OUTSIDE AND NO OTHER CUSTOMERS CAN ENTER.

29. LAT'S JACK FOISIE (JAN. 6) IN BANGKOK GIVES ACCOUNT OF THE CIA LETTER AND US EMBASSY REACTION TO IT. REMARKS THAT THAI-US RELATIONS ARE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE NOW, AS THE RTG SEEKS TO REESTABLISH TRADE AND PERHAPS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PRC. IN THIS CONNECTION, THAI OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN PLAYING THE NUMBERS GAME ON ACTUAL SIZE OF US FORCES IN THAILAND. DEF. MIN. DAWEE ANNOUNCED THAT NUMBER IS BELOW 33,000 AND GOING LOWER SOON, WHILE US SAYS FIGURE IS 35,000 AND NEGOTS ARE CONTINUING ON "POSSIBLE FURTHER REDUCTION." REPORTS US WANTS TO NEGOT A SOFA TO REGULARIZE THE LONG-TERM PRESENCE OF SOME TROOPS IN THAILAND, AND REPLYING TO QUERY ON PROGRESS OF SUCH TALKS, RTG FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN SAYS: "AS LONG AS THERE ARE AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN THAILAND THEY WILL BE UNDER UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 10 STATE 004615

THAI LAW.# UNDER AMBASSADOR KINTNER, EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO REDUCE SOME OF THE MORE VISIBLE SYMBOLS OF OFFICIAL US PRESENCE IN THAILAND, AND THAI APPEAR TO APPRECIATE THESE EFFORTS.

3B. LAT'S DAVID LAMB (JAN. 6) IN WELLINGTON REPORTS NZ GOVT. MOVING FOR FIRST TIME INTO DIRECT COMPETITION WITH PRIVATE HOTEL INDUSTRY; ITS HOTEL CORP LAST AUG. BOUGHT THE ROTORUA INTERNATIONAL IN CENTRAL NORTH ISLAND, AN AREA ALREADY FLOURISHING WITH FIRST CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS. THE HOTEL INDUSTRY, MUCH OF IT OWNED BY BREWERIES, HAS VOICED DISPLEASURE BUT FEW FEARS EXPRESSED BY BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN GENERAL OVER POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED NATIONALIZATION. NZ IS, IN FACT, ONE OF FREE WORLD'S MOST NATIONALIZED NATIONS; AND HAS SOCIAL AND MEDICAL BENEFITS OF WELFARE STATE NATURE AVAILABLE TO CITIZENS AT NEGLIGIBLE COST.

31. WRITING "NOTES ON CHINA" FROM HONG KONG, NYT'S LELYVELD OBSERVES THAT THE CHINESE, WHOSE INCREASES IN OIL PRODUCTION ARE OFFICIALLY ATTRIBUTED TO MAO'S -REVOLUTIONARY LINE," APPEAR TO HAVE GIVEN OUT FIGURE FOR 1973 THAT IS STAGGERING 40 PERCENT HIGHER THAN ESTIMATES USED BY DIPLOMATIC ANALYSTS AND INTERNATIONAL

OIL REPS IN HONG KONG. ASAHI SHIMBUN REPORTS THAT CHOU DROPPED FIGURE OF 50 MILLION TONS DURING OHIRA



VISIT. ANALYSTS BASED THEIR ESTIMATES ON 20 MILLION  
TON FIGURE CHOU USED IN 1970 CONVERSATION WITH EDGAR  
SNOW. THUS, CHOU IS CLAIMING 150 PERCENT INCREASE  
IN THREE YEARS. RECALLING THAT "SELF-RELIANCE" HAS  
BEEN BYWORD OF CHINESE OIL INDUSTRY, NOTES THAT AT  
OFFSHORE TAKANG OIL FIELD EAST OF TIENTSIN, WHICH  
MENTIONED FOR FIRST TIME IN CHINESE PRESS LAST WEEK,  
SHEER MANPOWER BEING USED TO BUILD DIKES INTO CHIHLI  
GULF TO FACILITATE DRILLING. LELYVELD REMARKS  
THAT FOREIGN OILMEN WHO HAVE HEARD OF THE DIKES  
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## Message Attributes

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